

OLC RECORD COPY

OLC 78-2969
9 August 1978

OHC

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDCI

FROM: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT: Current Status of House Committee on
Assassinations' Funding Request From
the House Committee on Administration

1. I called Bob Moss, General Counsel, of the House Committee on Administration to get a status report on the HSCA request for supplemental funding of \$790,000. As you will recall, in a close vote the Subcommittee on Accounting of the House Administration Committee denied the HSCA's request on 8 August. Moss says that an effort is underway to reconvene the Subcommittee for the specific purpose of reporting the result to the full Committee. If that should fail, an effort will be made to remove the whole question to the full Committee. The full Committee is scheduled to meet next Tuesday. Moss' view is that the chances of success for both efforts is about 50-50. In any event, Moss stated he believes that either before the House goes out next Friday or early in September, an effort will be made to bring the request for a supplemental to the floor of the House. As a practical matter, the HSCA will be unable to complete its public hearings unless the supplemental is granted.

2. Moss described the mood of the Administration Committee and of the House generally as one of wanting to limit the HSCA's request for funds to that which is absolutely necessary to complete the public hearing phase, but this will certainly be considerably less money than the HSCA has requested. Moss stated that it is the general view that the House made a mistake in creating the HSCA and made a further mistake when it reauthorized and refunded it. On the other hand, it is his judgment that neither the Committee on Administration nor the full House want to kill the Committee outright. Moss volunteered the advice

MORI/CDF/HRP, 502404

which I had been hoping for. He indicated that we have excellent leverage at this point to obtain agreement to our ground rules for the public hearings from the HSCA on the implied condition that we would not oppose their supplemental request and indeed might make a few calls to support it. It strikes me that this is precisely the position we want to be in before you visit Chairman Stokes, Judge Preyer and Mr. Devine on Friday.


Frederick P. Hitz

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DHC
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9 AUG 1978

TO: Mr. James W. Spensley, Staff Director
Subcommittee on the Environment and
the Atmosphere
~~Committee on Science and Technology~~
House of Representatives
2319 Rayburn House Office Building

Dear Mr. Spensley:

The enclosed new Agency publication
may be of interest to your Subcommittee.

SIGNED

Frederick P. Hitz
Legislative Counsel

Enclosure

FORM 1533 OBSOLETE
6-68 PREVIOUS
EDITIONS

(40)